

This year all of the IndyCars will race on a 10-percent ethanol blend before switching to a 100-percent ethanol fuel next year. With this change, the corn harvested on farms across the country will power the fastest cars in the world.

The ethanol that will power its race cars will deliver the same high-performance capabilities that drivers rely on, only without harmful air pollution. It also represents an important step toward reducing America's dependence on foreign oil, by providing a renewable energy source grown in our own fields. By tapping the energy potential of America's farm fields, we can ensure a reliable domestic energy supply to meet our Nation's needs while ending our reliance on unstable countries such as Saudi Arabia, Russia, and Venezuela for their oil and creating thousands of jobs for Hoosier farmers.

Every Memorial Day weekend, millions of Americans and sports fans from around the world watch the Indy 500. But this year, when they tune in to see who wins the Brickyard, they will also be watching the future of American energy unfold at 220 miles per hour.

With its decision to use ethanol as the fuel for the IndyCar series, the IRL is leading the way to encourage greater public use of renewable fuels. After all, if a high-performance vehicle can win the Brickyard running on ethanol, then surely ethanol is good enough for the family minivan, too.

I have introduced a bipartisan bill that will promote the use of ethanol and other biofuels, and I will continue to support efforts to find new ways to use ethanol in the future. I applaud the Indy Racing League for leading the way in this effort and, along with thousands of other Hoosiers, look forward to this year's ethanol-powered races.

AMERICAN LEGION POST 51 OF EAST POINT, GA

Mr. ISAKSON. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize in the RECORD American Legion Post 51 of East Point, GA, for its unselfish efforts on behalf of our brave soldiers serving in Iraq. The Post 51 family has adopted Charlie Company 324th Signal Battalion from East Point, GA. This Reserve unit made up of 144 service men and women is in the process of deploying in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

The post held a barbecue for the soldiers' families, planned a Christmas party for the soldiers, and Post 51 members attended the deployment ceremony for nine members of Charlie Company. Post 51 has also dedicated countless hours supporting the families of deployed members by helping with home repairs and offering financial advice.

Mr. President, I am very proud of our troops serving in Iraq and Afghanistan, and I am equally proud of organizations such as American Legion Post 51 for all it is doing to support our soldiers and their families here at home.

THE LEGACY OF CHIC HECHT

Mr. ENSIGN. Mr. President, I rise today to celebrate the life of Chic Hecht, a friend, a leader, and a great Nevadan. Chic served my home State and this country with honor, humility, and great devotion. He leaves behind the legacy of a true statesman, an intelligence officer, a successful businessman, and most importantly, a committed husband and father.

For me, Chic's legacy is that of a public servant who was fiercely loyal, unwavering in his principles, and an all-around decent human being.

Chic was drafted into the Army after college and served as an intelligence officer in Berlin during the Korean war. Chic retained a lifelong membership in the National Military Intelligence Association, and in 1988, was inducted into the Army Intelligence Hall of Fame.

Chic served in the Nevada State Senate for more than a decade before winning a U.S. Senate seat in what has been called the biggest political upset in our State's history. During his term in the Senate, Chic served on the Energy and Natural Resources Committee; the Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs Committee; and the Select Committee on Intelligence. In the Senate, Chic worked with President Reagan in persuading the Soviet Union to lift restrictions on the emigration of Jews—a part of his legacy that will endure for generations. Chic went on to serve 4 years as the U.S. Ambassador to the Bahamas.

But it was Nevada that was always home to Chic. And Chic never lost that down-to-earth, man of the people charisma that won him friends wherever he went. While his charm helped him make friends throughout his life, it was his loyalty that made him a lifelong friend.

I will miss Chic. He was the first to step up when I was being criticized, and he believed in me when very few others did. In politics, you learn quickly who your real friends are, and Chic was a real friend.

He left the Senate more than a decade before I took office, but I am well aware of the impact he made. Chic was a great role model, and I hope to carry on his legacy and the lessons he taught me: to be fiercely loyal, unwavering in principles, and an all-around decent human being.

Chic will be missed, but he has set an example for us all to follow. God bless him.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

THE DEATH OF SISTER ROSE THERING

• Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. President, New Jersey and the Nation mourn the May 6, 2006, passing of Sister Rose Thering, a selfless luminary, who was a leader in stamping out bigotry and intolerance and who brought Christians and Jews

together for increased mutual understanding. We were indeed lucky to have Sister Rose live in New Jersey for so many years. From 1968, when she first came to Seton Hall in South Orange, New Jersey benefited greatly from her wisdom and her tenacity to act as a bridge between people of different faiths and backgrounds. Sister Rose has made many contributions to the New Jersey community. As a member of the New Jersey Holocaust Commission, she helped write a 1994 law mandating the teaching of the Holocaust and genocide in the schools in New Jersey. As a member of the Seton Hall community, she forged an educational outreach program in Christian-Jewish studies.

Last year, Sister Rose moved back to Racine, WI, to live with her Sisters in the convent in which she initially entered religious life. Many in the New Jersey community sent her off with heavy hearts, knowing she was ill and knowing that they might never see her again. But it was her wish to live her last remaining days with her Dominican Sisters in Racine. As her life went full circle, the path she took is an example to us all.

In her early years, Sister Rose was dismayed at the disparaging comments she heard about Jews. She learned from her teachers that Jews killed Jesus; she heard whisperings of other anti-Semitic statements in her close-knit community. Concerned that a people were being unfairly treated, Sister Rose made it her passion to fight anti-Semitism and to bring attention to the culprit Catholic texts in which anti-Semitism was perpetuated. She wrote her doctorate dissertation on this topic at St. Louis University. In 1965, the Vatican used her dissertation as a basis for *Nostra Aetate*, the declaration that forever changed the relations between Catholic and Jews.

Sister Rose continued her commitment to Jewish-Christian relations by forging strong bonds with the Jewish community. She was unconventional, feisty, and strong-willed always wanting to make principled decisions in support of her cause. She wore a necklace of the Star of David fused to the cross. In 1986, she protested the inauguration of President Kurt Waldheim, former U.N. Secretary General, because he had served in a Nazi unit. In 1987, she went to the Soviet Union to protest the treatment of Russian Jews. She visited Israel frequently, often bringing students with her. At a particularly vulnerable time for Israel, Sister Rose decided to attend the Rally for Israel on April 15, 2002 on the Mall in Washington, DC. Despite her poor health, when she learned that there was no Catholic speaker on the program, she insisted on speaking to show her solidarity. And as no surprise, it was Sister Rose that was given the honor of giving the invocation.

Her legacy is great. It lives on in the documentary "Sister Rose's Passion" that won a Tribeca Film Festival